

first comet that I have observed whose nucleus has been of so deep a tint ; the outlying coma is still a pale yellow.

May 12 : comet very faint, only just distinguishable to unaided vision as a dim misty spot. It is now becoming a very insignificant object in the telescope, the background being so brilliantly illuminated by moonlight.

May 13 : not observed.

May 14 : comet invisible to naked eye. Moon very bright, easily found with finder. Has just entered the constellation *Argo Navis*. Nucleus still well condensed. No detectable change. Very mean object now.

Approximate Right Ascension and Declination at 7.30 P.M.

Date.	R.A.	South Dec.	Date.	R.A.	South Dec.
	h m	° ' 0		h m	° ' 0
May 2	4 22	1 30	May 7	6 15	22 0
3	5 12	6 0	8	6 28	24 30
4	5 20	12 0	11	7 4	29 30
5	5 37	15 0	12	7 15	30 15
6	5 54	19 15	14	7 24	33 30

Cape of Good Hope, Graham's Town.

Sextant Observations of Fabry's Comet.

(Communicated by Captain H. Toynbee.)

Observations made on board the barque "Viola," by Captain J. H. Price.

1886, May 2, 7.20 P.M. (10^h 5^m 4^s G.M.T.) Lat. 16° 24' N. ; Long. 35° 31' W. Comet's position was as follows :

Nucleus to <i>Betelgeuse</i>	...	...	...	...	20 5
„ „ <i>Rigel</i>	...	...	...	...	10 20

Tail about 5° in length.

Observations made on board the H.M.S. "Spartan," by Captain A. McLean Wait.

1886, May 4, 8 P.M. (8^h 45^m 55^s G.M.T.) Lat. 1° 54' S. ; Long. 12° 20' W. Barometer 30.138. Thermometer, wet bulb 78°, dry bulb 85°. Comet's position was as follows :—

Nucleus to <i>Betelgeuse</i>	...	...	...	...	20 35
„ „ <i>Sirius</i>	...	...	...	...	19 30

Altitude of nucleus 11° . Tail about 2° long, like a partially closed fan. Brightness about equal to a second-magnitude star.

Observations made on board the ship "Melbourne," by Captain C. F. Cooke.

1886, May 2, $9^{\text{h}} 11^{\text{m}}$ G.M.T., $7^{\text{h}} 30^{\text{m}}$ A.T.S.; D.R. Lat. $1^{\circ} 20'$ S.; D.R. Long. $25^{\circ} 20'$ W.

Distance of Comet from <i>Betelgeuse</i>	...	...	$20^{\circ} 9''$
" " " <i>Sirius</i>	...	...	$34^{\circ} 1' 30''$
Altitude	...	...	$4^{\circ} 30'$

May 3, $8^{\text{h}} 50^{\text{m}}$ G.M.T., $7^{\text{h}} 4^{\text{m}}$ A.T.S.; D.R. Lat. $0^{\circ} 43'$ S.; D.R. Long. $26^{\circ} 36'$ W.

Distance of Comet from <i>Betelgeuse</i>	...	...	$18^{\circ} 58'$
" " " <i>Sirius</i>	...	...	$26^{\circ} 28'$

May 5, $9^{\text{h}} 26^{\text{m}}$ G.M.T., $7^{\text{h}} 30^{\text{m}}$ A.T.S.; D.R. Lat. $1^{\circ} 14'$ N.; D.R. Long. $27^{\circ} 20'$ W.

Distance of Comet from <i>Betelgeuse</i>	...	...	$23^{\circ} 36'$
" " " <i>Sirius</i>	...	...	$14^{\circ} 0'$

May 7, $9^{\text{h}} 8^{\text{m}}$ G.M.T., $7^{\text{h}} 20^{\text{m}}$ A.T.S.; D.R. Lat. $3^{\circ} 44'$ N.; D.R. Long. $28^{\text{h}} 22'$ W. Comet very faint. Observed through ordinary telescope; tail very short, large illuminated space round nucleus, which has always appeared larger than any comet I have ever seen before.

Observed angles with <i>Sirius</i>	...	...	26°
" " " <i>Procyon</i>	...	...	$33^{\circ} 50'$
" " " <i>Canopus</i>	...	...	$29^{\circ} 18'$

Observations of Comet a 1886 (Brooks), made at the Royal Observatory, Greenwich.

(Communicated by the Astronomer Royal.)

The observations were made with the East or Sheepshanks Equatorial, aperture 6·7 inches, by taking transits over two cross-wires at right angles to each other, and each inclined 45° to the parallel of Declination.

Comet a 1886.

Greenwich Mean Solar Time.	Observer.	Corr. for Par. and Refract. in R.A.	R.A.	Corr. for Par. and Refract. in N.P.D.	No. of Comp.	Apparent R.A.		Apparent N.P.D.	Comp. Star.
						h	m s		
1886. May 20	H.	+0·21	m s -0 8·37	-12 6·9	3	2 43	53·30	° ' " 45 12 29·2	a
		+0·08	+0 36·37	-4 59·9	3	2 44	5·62	° ' " 45 13 6·7	b
		+0·02	+2 22·30	+0 53·9	2	2 44	8·58	° ' " 45 13 49·9	c

Mean Places of Comparison Stars.

Star's Name.	R.A. 1886·0.		N.P.D. 1886·0.		Authority.
	h	m s	° ' "	° ' "	
(a) W.B. (2) II. 1016	2 44	1·74	45 24	44·9	Weisse's Bessel (2)
(b) Lalande 5203	2 43	29·45	45 18	9·2	Lalande
(c) W.B. (2) II. 961	2 41	46·54	45 12	52·0	Weisse's Bessel (2)

The observations are corrected for parallax and refraction. The initial H. is that of Mr. Hollis.

Royal Observatory, Greenwich:
1886, June 9.